



# CHRISTMAS REVIEW





I have approached the National Federation of Anglers to ask if and how our club can be affiliated to that organisation and also asked for a list of clubs, not only on the sea coast but also near rivers and lakes, so that, should any individual St. Dunstaner want to join a fishing club, I might be able to give him an introduction, if he will write to me.

### Bill Griffiths

Our readers will want to join me in congratulating Bill Griffiths, one of the select band of handless/blind St. Dunstaners, on his nomination as Disabled Sportsman of the Year. Professor Sir Ludwig Guttmann, world famous for his work for paraplegics at Stoke Mandeville, nominated our St. Dunstaner for this award and it has been approved by the Sports Writers' Association. The presentation will be made on Monday, 8th December, and Bill Griffiths will then be in company with Britain's foremost able-bodied sportsmen and women of the year, who will receive awards for achievements in their own particular field of sporting activities.

Well done, Bill!—and good luck to you and Alice!

### A Happy Christmas

Christmas is traditionally a family occasion. Lady Fraser and I would like to sit down at a gigantic table with two thousand St. Dunstan's families, perhaps six or eight thousand people all together, to eat our Christmas dinner and drink a toast. But this must remain a flight of fancy, so instead we send to every home our very warm and affectionate good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Fraser of Lonsdale

## RADIO

Since our last *Review* was published the Chairman has received more letters from St. Dunstaners stating their views on radio and television and the proposed changes of the B.B.C.

**Micky Burns**, physiotherapist, "I was very disturbed to read your article on the proposed cuts in sports broadcasting on Radio 3. Apart from the pleasure I get from listening to the sports programme on Saturdays I also find it a means of communication with my children who are all very keen on sport and also with my patients. It is an extra talking point and it establishes contact with many people with whom I have very little else in common."

**Peter Spencer**, physiotherapist, says:—"Saturday afternoon full comprehensive coverage is a 'must' for many listeners both sighted and blind but especially for the blind as the television alternative, quite rightly in many sports, keeps sound commentary down to a minimum as viewers can see what is going on and do not want to be told every detail. The B.B.C. could save money by cutting out some of the 'Dead wood' in the 'In Touch' programme."

**Miss D. M. Alban** writes:—"To stop the orchestral concerts would be an intolerable deprivation to most of us and the cur-

tailoring of the sports programme a disaster. One expects the men of this country to be keenly interested in sport and it would be a hardship indeed, to deny them a chance of listening to it on the air.

**Miss Barbara Bell**, physiotherapist, says:—"The sporting programmes that I enjoy more than any other are the ball-by-ball commentaries. I even take my portable to the hospital to listen in the odd minute between patients, who like to listen, too, to pass the time whilst they are having their treatment. Besides ball-by-ball commentaries on Test Matches and Wimbledon, I enjoy broadcasts from athletic meetings, particularly, of course, the Olympic Games. I do like the news of progress in the Monte Carlo Rally and I listen to the commentaries on the Derby, Grand National and the Boat Race and other interesting things such as the arrival home of Sir Francis Chichester, Sir Alec Rose and it goes without saying, the whole of the Moon trip."

**Bernard Leete**, lecturer, writes:—"My own bias impels me towards good music of all kinds; 'news' and news magazines, political commentaries, plays, vulgar comedy when wittily spiced with sardonic social and political satire and 'Sport'."

## LADY ANSELL

*When going to press last month we briefly recorded with regret the death of Lady Ansell, wife of Sir Michael Ansell, on 13th October. A memorial service was held at St. Mary's Church, Bideford, Devon, on 31st October at which General Sir Richard Goodbody attended representing St. Dunstan's. The following is a tribute from Mr. Dorian Williams, M.F.H. which appeared in the "Horse and Hound."*

Only a little over 24 hours after presenting the Spurs in the centre of the arena at the Horse of the Year Show, as she had so many times in the past, Victoria Ansell died.

She had enjoyed every minute of the show, and when her friends told her how lovely it was to see her she invariably replied how lovely it was to see them. And she meant it, for the two great horse shows that her husband had created were part of her life. She shared his delight at their success and behind the scenes, with her detached yet always practical advice, she played no small part in ensuring their success.

It is not always easy being married to a man with tremendous personality and exceptional ability, but with Victoria the occasional irritations and frustrations were

### SIR ARTHUR PEARSON

On the morning of Monday, 8th December, a party of St. Dunstaners will be leaving Headquarters in Marylebone Road, to lay a wreath on Sir Arthur Pearson's grave.

Subscriptions of not more than one shilling towards the wreath should be sent to Mr. Lloyds at 191 Old Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1.

As announced in the November *Review*, a Service of Commemoration will be held in the Chapel at Ovingdean on Sunday, 7th December at 11.15 a.m.

### Weaving Books

Some weaving books belonging to MRS. MAUREEN LEES of Birkenhead were either mislaid or lost in the post a few years ago. Would any member of the staff, retired staff or St. Dunstaner who can assist in tracing these books, please contact Mr. C. D. Wills, Welfare Superintendent, at Headquarters.

more than submerged in the great pride she felt in her husband's remarkable achievements, for she knew that it was all the result of a wonderful partnership.

Until her recent illness it was that partnership that had given such enormous pleasure and happiness to their hundreds of friends and many, many acquaintances. Latterly it was in a more personal capacity that Mike Ansell had gained from the companionship and inspiration that Victoria was still able to give him; but indirectly it was the whole horse world that benefited.

She was a beautiful person with a lively smile and a warm personality that made everyone lucky enough to know her grateful for her friendship. She was also tremendous fun, and very courageous. Most of all she was a serene person. She was the ideal companion for Mike, and one can only hope that he and his family will find strength from the great sympathy that goes out to them at this time.

It was so right that she was at his side at the triumphant climax of the great show that is a monument to them both. It was right too, that her end should be as gentle and peaceful as she was herself. She knew what it meant to suffer, but suffering is never allowed to scar people like Victoria.

### Tom Wilkins

Those of our older basket-makers who knew TOM WILKINS will be sad to learn of his death on 9th November last at the age of 88. Tom Wilkins was a civilian blind man who instructed many St. Dunstaners in the craft of basket-making during the years between the two Wars.

### Christopher Carson

Readers will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Christopher Carson on 24th October, 1969, at the age of 87. He was an orderly at Pearson House and very popular both with staff and St. Dunstaners. He retired in 1947.

The Scottish Braille Press have advised us that "Sports Report" (a monthly magazine) will be withdrawn from circulation as from December, 1969, and that a notice to this effect is appearing in each issue up to the end of the year.





## HANDLESS RE-UNION

by  
Fred Higgs

"Gone Fishing"—Wally Lethbridge gives a practical test to the newly developed fishing rod and harness introduced at the Handless Reunion.

The girls and boys, 14 in all arrived at Ovingdean on Thursday evening to sherry and a very excellent dinner with Commandant, Matron and staff. The guest of honour was our friend and doctor, Dr. John O'Hara, who was in jovial spirits. This set the pattern for the following few days.

On Friday we held our General Meeting in the Winter Garden and later we adjourned to the Queen's Park Tavern for a social evening and buffet supper.

We went to the races on Saturday at Kempton Park where the number of runners was as small as our number. The weather was very kind to us although the bookies were not. On returning from the races we had a get together in the Winter Garden. Our guests were Mr. and Mrs. Evan Cook and Matron Hallett. During the evening Lord and Lady Fraser called in to say a few words and everyone enjoyed the evening. Our good companion Mrs. Dacre guided us to Buckhurst Park on Saturday. It is the home of Lord and Lady Buckhurst who welcomed us and introduced us to their friends. The arrangement of the tables made it easy for us to chat with Lord and Lady Buckhurst and their other guests. It was a very successful visit.

Monday, our final day, we spent in the Winter Garden in discussion with such distinguished guests as, Mr. Ion Garnett-Orme, Vice-Chairman of St. Dunstan's, Dr. J. H. Fletcher, Mr. C. D. Wills, Mr. R. Dufton, Mr. N. French, and Mr. L. Fawcett.

The Reunion ended with a dinner at the Metropole Hotel, Brighton, presided over by our Vice-Chairman, where we all had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Garnett-Orme, Mr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Finn, Mrs. E. Dacre, J.P., Mrs. E. Macdonald.

Mr. Garnett-Orme honoured us with a speech and friend and colleague Mr. Bill Wrigley replied for all of us. These excellent speeches set the seal for another enjoyable reunion.

Letter to Mrs. Dacre, J.P. from Lady  
Buckhurst  
Buckhurst Park,  
Withyham,  
Sussex.  
26th October, 1969.

Dear Mrs. Dacre,

Will you please thank all the St. Dunstaners who gave me that lovely little writing table last Sunday.

It was a wonderful surprise and will be constantly useful to me as I always have a writing table covered with everything under the sun, I shall now be able to have a beautifully tidy writing table, with everything stacked away in my new table.

Even better I shall be able to take it out on the terrace and write in the sun in the Summer and sit with it by the fire in the Winter.

We both enjoyed meeting everyone last Sunday and hope you will all come again.

Yours sincerely  
ANNE BUCKHURST

## That Youth May Demonstrate In Peace

*"In remembrance of those who during two world wars made the great sacrifice. God, make us better men and women, and give peace in our time."*

This was the subject of thought and prayer during the two minute silence at the Cenotaph suggested in the Order of Service, on Remembrance Sunday, November 9th. There were forty-two St. Dunstaners on parade sharing this thought with hundreds of other ex-service people, members of the public and branches of the services in Whitehall.

Fortunately a watery sun had broken through after heavy rain to filter through the plane trees and light the scene of the ceremony. During the silence only the sound of a blustery wind rustling fallen leaves and fretting the banners dressing the memorial could be heard.

As the first notes of the Last Post ended the Silence, a handful of demonstrators shouted "Remember Biafra". Their voices were drowned by the bugles and they were soon hustled away by the police.

Her Majesty the Queen laid the first wreath, followed by the Duke of Edinburgh and other members of the Royal Family. After the wreath laying the columns of ex-servicemen and women marched past the Cenotaph between ranks of Navy, Army and Air Force personnel



Squire Brook at the Cenotaph.

too young to remember Ypres, the Dardanelles, Givenchy, St. Quentin and the Somme in the First World War. There were men in St. Dunstan's ranks who fought in those battles and others from a later generation who have good cause to remember places in France, Germany, Italy and the Far East.

Remembrance Day is not a time for cheering but as our contingent passed through Whitehall and Parliament Square the knowledgeable among spectators would point out, "They are St. Dunstan's" and ripples of hand clapping followed their progress.

At luncheon afterwards Lord Fraser, who led the St. Dunstaners with Mr. C. D. Wills, reminded his audience that we are not alone in remembrance. He said that there are similar ceremonies in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and South Africa. Lord Fraser concluded, "I am so glad St. Dunstan's put up the very best single parade of today. Of course the British Legion outnumbers us but no other single unit had better numbers than us on



parade. A quarter of our group were the old veterans of the first war."

Replying to Lord Fraser's toast to St. Dunstan's, Micky Burns referred to the protesters: "This morning we had what could be loosely called a demonstration. Their voices were so reedy and small that many scarcely heard them." He said that a recent television programme showed the "terrible pressure" put on writers in Russia who held unorthodox opinions. "We believe all men are free and as long as this system exists the armistice service will be justified. I am proud to be allowed to march this morning because this whole thing epitomises democracy—that people can demonstrate peaceably."

Throughout a showery and windy afternoon there was a demonstration of a different kind as hundreds of ordinary Londoners crowded round the Cenotaph to see the wreaths or lay their own tributes—recalling, no doubt, that without the lives of the fallen in two world wars, the youthful demonstrators would not have the freedom to dissent.

#### Remembrance Day—Belfast

In accordance with the Government's direction there was no Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph in Belfast this year. Those who usually place wreaths on the Cenotaph were allowed to do so and Mrs. Thompson, our Welfare Visitor, laid a wreath on behalf of St. Dunstan's.

## FRANK REVIEWS

"Count Bohemond" by Alfred Duggan, read by *Anthony Parker*. Bohemond, son of a Norman adventurer knight, is literally bred upon the battlefields of Europe, learning the art of warfare from his father. A giant by stature, and a cunning, ruthless soldier, Bohemond takes to the sword in order to secure his own future when his father disinherits him in favour of a younger son.

When his old enemy the emperor Alexis of Greece appeals to the Pope for help in freeing his Empire from the Infidels, Bohemond is surprised to find himself included in the invitation to join the crusade, and determines that if he helps Alexis, he will also help himself. Needless to say, he not only hastens a Christian victory but also gains great personal riches.

An enjoyable piece of reading in which the author does particularly well in bringing out the complex character of his hero.

"The Man Who Bought a Navy" by **Gerald Bowman**, read by *Michael de Morgan*. When the German Commander ordered the scuttling of the Grand Fleet at Scapa Flow in 1919, he thought he had made a thorough job of it. Salvage was said to be impossible. That was until Ernest Cox focussed his attention on the matter; Cox, who started as draper's errand boy, and became an engineering legend in his own lifetime, took the matter as a personal challenge. Already a wealthy man, it was not the financial possibility that appealed to him, he just thought that "Can" was a better word than "Can't", and went all out to prove it.

With no previous salvage experience, he and his crew set about the task by trial and error. Many times Cox faced financial disaster, but although he lost money over the whole period of the eight years which the work took, he was a generous employer and asked his employees to do nothing he would not undertake himself.

"Berlin Memoranda" by **Alan Hall**, read by *David Broomfield*. Quiller, British Secret Agent, has just completed a mission in Berlin when he hears news of the whereabouts of a war criminal whom he has sought for many years. Determined to track and destroy this man, Quiller exposes himself to the attentions of a neo-Nazi group who hope for as much information from him as he intends to extract from them.

This is an exciting piece of fiction about an Agent who uses only his wits and his stamina in order to prevail.

"Fresh From the Country" by **Miss Read**, read by *Elizabeth Proude*. A young country girl leaves home for her first teaching job in a new suburb. A nice pleasant little story. Ideal light reading for a winter's evening.

#### Many Thanks from F. Hawkins

To all my ex-trainees,

My thanks for the cheque contributed as a farewell gift. It has substantially helped to purchase an Allen Leaf Sweeper which will most certainly be much in use and remind me of your thoughtfulness. Through the *Review*, I wish all my former trainees the best of luck for the future, together with my best wishes.

## Oh, Go to Sleep!

by Charles Bargery

Every night after getting settled into bed and nearly asleep, I receive a nudge from my wife, and from underneath the bed-clothes comes an enquiring voice, "Have you locked the doors, have you turned the gas off, and finally, are all the windows closed". "Yes, yes", I assure her, and I fall asleep only to be awakened later by further nudges, "Did you hear that bang?" she asks, "Only the boiler" I assure her. However, this year we decided to own a caravan and take what holidays we could as and when we chose. Our first was at Whitsun, the van was already shampooed and polished and stood majestically in the yard, peaceful bliss, I thought as I went around it with a clean duster for the final touches. My daughter soon arrived with the car and with my wife, she did the final checking of the supplies. All was in order, I was informed. Now it was my turn—vents closed, windows closed, gas off, I repeated under my breath. Oh gosh, I suddenly remembered the doors, yes all O.K., then came my son-in-law's turn—grabs up, brake off, and with a mighty heave hitched the van on to the car, safety chain on, lights plugged in. "O.K. Skips" he breathlessly shouts, and we all bundle into the car whilst Alan stands at the rear of the van and my daughter in the driving seat. The lights are checked, left down, right down, stop and parking, all O.K. comes the report and then we start rolling.

After two hours of travelling we decide to halt for a meal, it is now ten o'clock, so a lay-by is chosen and a meal is prepared. Now comes the time to roll again and the procedure starts all over—vents down, windows closed, gas off and doors locked, then our co-driver checks, jockey wheel up, grabs up, and hand brake off and the order is then given—start rolling. Shepton Mallet is passed, we doze only to be awakened by the information that we are now passing Taunton. Drivers are changed and we continue to doze in the back of the car. Soon, for it seems only a few minutes, we are awoken again by another piece of information from the driver that we have pulled into another lay-by near our destination and would complete the journey next day. We put the van brake on, let the jockey wheel down, the grabs down, the gas on,

the vents, Oh dear, I am so tired, and soon we are inside the van asleep, until I feel that nudge—"Yes" I shout, "The doors are locked, windows shut, gas is off, now for goodness sake the roof's on and the cats—Oh, go to sleep!!"

## Retirement of Mrs. Dora Penstone

Dora Westcott, as she is known to so many older St. Dunstaners, lost her sight whilst a schoolgirl during the First World War and joined the staff of St. Dunstan's as a shorthand typist at Park Crescent in April, 1946. "Our Dora" has worked in the Southern Area Welfare office ever since where her skill as a brailist, her general efficiency and wonderful memory which enabled her to acquire an extensive knowledge of our work, eventually gained for her the position of assistant to the Area Superintendent in 1959.

In 1957 she married Mr. Harry Penstone who soon discovered that in addition to her office accomplishments, his wife is a first-class cook and a skilled machine and hand knitter and many of her garments have gained prizes in open competitions. She is also interested in tape recording and music and has followed the progress of inventions to aid the blind so that her practical knowledge might be available to all who needed her advice.

Several St. Dunstaners with whom Mrs. Penstone has corresponded or conversed during her 23 years' service have asked to be permitted to contribute to a fund with which to purchase a gift to mark the occasion of her retirement at the end of the year and Mr. Wills has consented to act as Honorary Treasurer. Anyone wishing to contribute should send their subscription to him at Headquarters before 12th December when the list will be closed.

We take this opportunity of wishing Mrs. Penstone and her husband, who retired a few years previously, a long and happy retirement and the good wishes of St. Dunstaners, their families and her office colleagues go with her when she leaves us on 31st December, 1969.

## GARDENING NEWS

Alfred Outtrim of Hertford, has won three first prizes in the Hertfordshire Blind Club Horticultural Competition this year. These are for apples, onions and his own home made black currant jam.





The match on which the result of section 'B' hung: Ralph Preece, winner versus Phil Duffee, runner-up.

## Where Blind see further than Sighted

An honoured guest was Mrs. Ivy Kelk who presented the Championship cup to John Cruse.



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Don't think of chess as a game in which you need special consideration for your handicap, Mr. R. W. Bonham told St. Dunstaners at Ovingdean on 2nd November. In fact, the blind can see further into the game than the sighted.

Head of Mathematics at Worcester College, international chess player and 'father figure' of St. Dunstan's Chess Club, Mr. Bonham was speaking at the conclusion of the 1969 Chess week-end in which ten St. Dunstan's chess players took part. He said that chess is nowadays a game for young men. He was pleased to see that more players were coming on in St. Dunstan's. He advised his listeners not to be discouraged by early difficulties in mastering the unfamiliar chess-men and their moves, "You've got to persevere with it—like marriage!"

St. Dunstaners in the Wintergarden, including some potential new chess players were told they would learn much more from losing games than winning. "One

lesson you learn is to lose gracefully. You get fewer squabbles in chess than most games."

There were no squabbles in the St. Dunstan's Championship matches which resulted in John Cruse, of Newcastle, earning the title and silver challenge cup for the fourth time by winning all his five games in the top section.

Winner of section B, also victorious in five games, was Ralph Preece, of Hastings. Runners-up came in threes in section A with Ron Hyett, Roman Donald and Wally Lethbridge all having won three games.

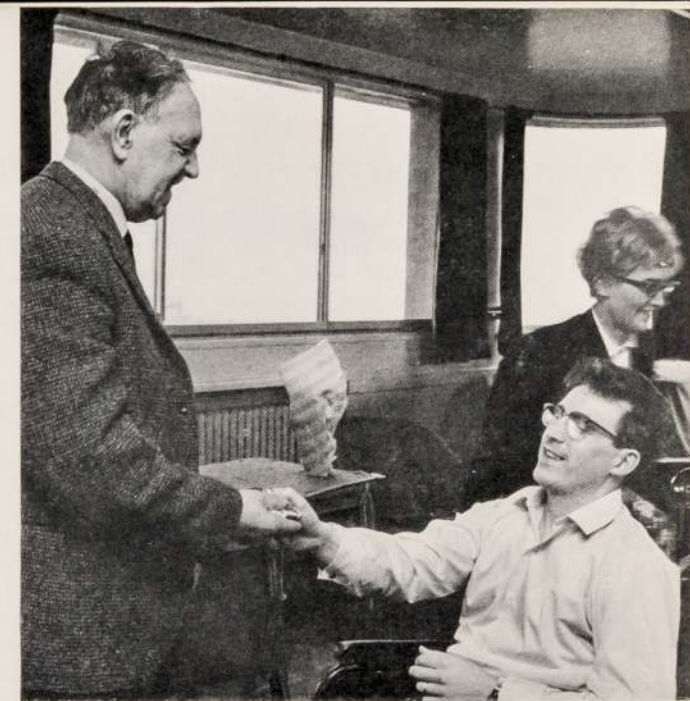
Section B winner was Phil Duffee who lost only one game to Ralph Preece.

### Correspondence Championship

One of the projects discussed by the Chess Club was the possibility of organising a Correspondence Championship exchanging tapes. The advantage of tape over ordinary correspondence chess being that it is not necessary to keep the board standing. The tape can be played through each time and the final move added for return to the opponent.

A personality much missed at Ovingdean this year was that of the late Charles Kelk, to whom tribute was paid by the presence of Mrs. Kelk, accompanied by her daughter, Susan. Mrs. Kelk presented the prizes and made a short speech.

The full results of the 1969 Chess Championship were:—



Roy Hyett, on behalf of St. Dunstan's Chess players makes a presentation to Mr. Reginald Bonham.

### Section A

1. John Cruse 5 games
2. Roy Hyett
- Wally Lethbridge } 3 games
- Roman Donald }
5. Harry Boorman 1 game

### Section B

1. Ralph Preece 5 games
2. Phil Duffee 4 games
3. James Chell 3 games
4. Stan Coe 2 games
5. Joe Culshaw 1 game

## Letter to the Editor

From A. C. Pointon of Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.

### New Angling Club

From Saturday, 17th to Wednesday, 22nd October inclusive, 17 St. Dunstaners anglers enjoyed fishing off Shoreham and although the yield of fish was light, very little but mackerel being caught, I feel that those who were on the trips very much enjoyed both the companionship of a boat and the excellent weather with which these trips were blessed. In fact two of the days were so warm that shirt sleeves were the order of the day.

On Saturday after the fishing trip, Lord

Fraser discussed with us all aspects of forming a St. Dunstan's Angling Club, with the result that one was formed under his presidency and about which there will be more anon.

For those interested, last week-end was the Eastbourne angling festival, and catches were very light there too. In Bexhill yesterday, we were more fortunate. Four of us took half a dozen cod between eight and nine pounds each, two plaice, over a dozen dabs, about two dozen silver whiting and the usual pouting for which the seagulls were very obviously grateful. I wonder how other members of the St. Dunstan's Angling Club have fared this week-end.

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## George Jones Tells the Story of Peg-Leg's Christmas

It was a few days before Christmas, some years ago, when I went home. As usual I went to see Will Perkins, who was known as Will Peg-leg. An accident in the mines had resulted in the loss of a leg, and Will had a wooden one in its place.

He was a big pigeon man in the valley, and he had won many prizes with his birds. The one bird he prized above the others was a blue checker and he called her Betsy.

It was a raw, cold morning when I went in search of Will, and as usual he was up in the pigeon loft. I climbed the steep slope and the dark clouds were scudding along the mountain tops bringing a few flakes of snow as they passed.

Will was standing at the door of the cote watching me as I battled against the wind. A tall, thin man with a cap thrust on the back of his head, but he rarely smiled.

"Hello," he said, as I made the last few yards to the door, "Down for Christmas, is it?"

"Aye," I replied when I got my breath back, "Come to stop for a couple of days like, and to see you."

"Come in then and have a look at the birds. I still do a bit with them as you can see."

I glanced around the loft where the well-fed pigeons were on the perches but I couldn't see his Betsy.

"Where's the . . . ?" I began but he cut me short.

"I sold it," he said but he didn't look at me. He was looking out through the wire of the cote down the valley and towards the point where the mountains met in the distance. There he used to watch for Betsy when she flew in from one of the long distance races.

"What the devil made you do that?" I asked.

He didn't answer so I kept on.

"You hard up or something, Will?"

"No," he said slowly, "but I have a little plan which will cost a bit more than I can afford and Betsy fetched a good price, so that's it."

"You loved that bird, Will."

"Shut up," he answered sharply and I said no more.

The next day being Christmas Eve, I went to the Working Men's Club to see some of my old friends and Bill Butler, secretary of the Club was one of them. We talked about things in general, and then he asked if I was coming to the kid's party on Boxing Day.

"Since when have you gone in for that Bill?" I asked.

"First time this year," Bill answered. "Never had enough money before but this year someone dropped an envelope with twenty-five pound notes and a little note saying it was for the kid's party."

"I wonder who did that," I said.

"No idea," Bill said, "but there's not many around here with that much to spare."

I thought it over and wondered.

Christmas morning was cold but bright and clear. I climbed the slope to the pigeon loft to coax Will down to the Club for a drink. He was standing at the door and waiting for me.

"Well," he said when I reached him. "Merry Christmas and all that."

"Same to you, Will," I answered. "Coming down to the Club for a drink?"

"I don't think so. Not this morning." I looked hard at him and then I blurted it out.

"You sold the blue checker so that you could give the money to the kid's party?"

"Who told you?" he snapped.

"No one but I guessed it," I answered.

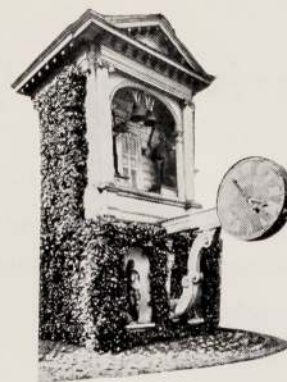
"Keep it to yourself then," he said and he looked down the long range of hills where the valley met. I watched him and I saw him start, then he was talking to himself. "It can't be and yet I can see her. Look, Boyo, look down there!"

He grabbed me and was pointing down the valley. There was a small speck in the sky coming nearer all the time.

"It's Betsy," he said, "She's flown home."

He was right. The speck grew larger and even I could see it was the blue checker. She circled the loft and Will gave a low whistle then she flew in through the door. Will stood there throwing some corn on the floor and whispering to the bird.

After a few moments he turned to me, "I'll come down for that pint now, Boyo. Betsy will have to go back, I know, but for Christmas Day she stays. It's my Christmas."



ST. DUNSTAN'S CLOCK



## It Strikes Me

### Computer Check-Mate

At the chess week-end, **Reginald Bonham** described a match between computers—Russian and American. The Russian computer won because it had been programmed better. When it sacrificed a rook, the American machine, taught to win every piece it could, eagerly accepted and was check-mated two moves later. From what I have heard from St. Dunstan's chess players, Reginald Bonham, himself, is something of a human chess computer as he can play a game through in his head without reference to the board and has several times played simultaneous games against our club members. An English international, who has played alongside our top sighted players in open championships, I am sure he would be more than a match for that wily Russian computer!

### Sermon Subject

Not many St. Dunstaners can have been the subject of a sermon—unless perhaps as awful warnings!—but **David Bell** was singled out by the Dean of St. Paul's, The Very Reverend Dr. Martin Sullivan, in his sermon during the Remembrance Service in St. Paul's on Sunday, 9th November. The Dean had been guest of honour at the Jubilee Dinner of the Association of Ex-Tablers' Clubs held in Painters' Hall in the City of London the night before. He was so impressed by his meeting with David, who took the Chair at this important function as President of the Association, that he quoted him to his congregation.

In his presidential role during an historic year for the Association of former members of Round Table, David Bell has lost count of the number of speeches he has made in visiting clubs all over Britain and abroad; speeches made without the aid of notes, even Braille. I asked him how he copes: "I think out what is required for the particular evening and prepare a main framework of essential points. After that I build it up as I go along during the evening. I am composing while I am eating the meat and veg! There's one advantage—it enables me to be topical and introduce things that come up on the occasion. I am fortunate in having a good memory to prevent me straying from the point."—It sounds as if David could preach a good sermon, himself.

**MAGOG**





## Christmas 'Quiz'-ine for All Tastes

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 1. Why did the Egyptians build such big and splendid pyramids?   | Score 1 |
| 2. Why was an invitation to perform at the Roman Colosseum not always welcomed?  | Score 1 |
| 3. Why was the Duke of Marlborough's house given the name of Blenheim?   | Score 1 |
| 4. Who or what is a gate-crasher?  | Score 1 |
| 5. Who or what is a bulldozer?   | Score 1 |
| 6. What is the difference between a church and a cathedral?  | Score 2 |
| 7. What is the difference between a knight and a baronet?  | Score 2 |
| 8. Who was the Roman god of war?   | Score 1 |
| 9. Who was the god of the sea?   | Score 1 |
| 10. Who was the father of the gods?  | Score 1 |
| 11. Who was the mother of the gods?  | Score 1 |
| 12. If a duke should partner a duchess, who should partner a witch?  | Score 2 |
| 13. If a wife should partner a husband, who should partner a Red Indian brave?   | Score 1 |
| 14. In Shakespeare's Hamlet, when Claudius was king of Denmark who was his queen?  | Score 2 |
| 15. In which Shakespeare play do Brutus and Cassius with other conspirators, assassinate a Roman dictator?   | Score 1 |
| 16. How does Portia teach Shylock a lesson in the Merchant of Venice?  | Score 1 |
| 17. In which of Shakespeare's plays does a king's ghost appear on the ramparts of a castle?  | Score 1 |
| 18. In which play is there a sleep walking scene?  | Score 1 |
| 19. What do you get from a box office?   | Score 1 |
| 20. What is a spinney?   | Score 1 |
| 21. What is a cloak-and-dagger story?  | Score 1 |
| 22. What is a Western?   | Score 1 |
| 23. What was the name of Columbus's ship used for his first Atlantic expedition?   | Score 2 |
| 24. In which English county does the Floral Dance take place each year?  | Score 2 |
| 25. Where did the Canterbury Pilgrims meet to begin their journey?   | Score 2 |
| 26. In what Fleet Street coffee house did Samuel Johnson and his group meet?   | Score 2 |
| 27. Who was the Queen of England when the Spanish Armada sailed against her country?   | Score 1 |
| 28. Who was King Henry VIII's last wife?   | Score 1 |
| <b>Quizzes from Fred's Cafe.</b>   |         |
| 1. If a pair of shoes and a pair of laces cost together 20/-, how much do the laces cost if the shoes cost one pound more than the laces?                              | Score 1 |
| 2. The U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. are poles apart in most things. How far are both countries away from each other at their nearest point? 25 miles, 250 miles or 2,500 miles? | Score 2 |
| 3. Why was Fleet Street so named?  | Score 1 |





# Bridge Notes

## TRIBUTES FROM THE BRIDGE CLUB

We at the Bridge Club share with Mrs. Brown the deep sorrow that she must be experiencing at this present time due to the passing away of her dearly beloved husband and our great friend Jock.

It is impossible to know, without personal experience, just what agonies, torment and suffering it must be when two people who have shared life together, living for each other in complete happiness and understanding for so many years, suddenly find that it has all been taken away. Life has, in one stroke become empty and hollow, with no future only sorrow, sadness and loneliness ahead, and yet . . . is this really true? Of every day, of every month and of every year, no matter how lovely the day has been evening always follows the day which brings forth darkness.

The evening of Jock's life has passed and with its passing has left that darkness. Although what I am now going to say is so very hard to understand in times of sorrow and sadness, let us try to remember . . . No matter how dark the night, no matter how long it may seem to last or what ever the circumstances, it could be at home, in a hospital, on the top of a mountain with its snowy blizzard raging or in a tiny boat way out in a wind swept, storm tossed sea, in fear, in loneliness, sadness, happiness or even in sweet sleep but whatever the situation there is always a dawn to follow, just the very faintest glimmer of light to start with but gradually getting stronger and brighter with each passing moment.

I believe that Jock has passed through his last night, only to have met up with a now everlasting dawn with all its glory and sunshine ahead.

We at the Bridge Club have lost a good friend and one of our Founder members and in our club room we see yet another empty chair. But to Jock I would say, "Enjoy that everlasting dawn with its well earned sunshine and glory."

ROY W. ARMSTRONG,  
*Captain.*

"Tempus fugit"—"Time marches on" and thus I recall a picture which appeared less than a year ago, on the occasion of the Thirtieth Anniversary, of Lord Fraser surrounded by the four surviving Founder Members of the St. Dunstan's Bridge Club. To-day, only three are left for, the then smiling G. P. Brown, its Captain for eight years, is no longer with us. Feeling unwell, early last August, he decided not to travel with our party to Harrogate. On our return we were surprised to learn that he had been admitted to hospital where, after a short time, he passed away on October 15th.

I first met Jock, as he was generally called, in the middle thirties when, after having first been a poultry farmer, he returned to St. Dunstan's to be retrained as a telephonist. He joined our Bridge Section at its formation and remained a staunch supporter till the end. Throughout his life he was a St. Dunstaner at heart, upholding by all he did the aim of this Organisation. To his fellow St. Dunstaners he was always kind, preferring to withdraw rather than to quarrel, although having left his native Scotland for more than fifty years, he never lost its attractive accent nor like a true Scot, his go-canny character in making his decisions, but once having made up his mind, he would never flinch. All St. Dunstaners and friends will deeply deplore his departure and miss his good fellowship. Rest in peace Jock, we all will remember you.

P. NUYENS

### Individual Competition

The seventh and last Individual Competition of the London Section was held on Saturday 1st November. The results were as follows:—

P. Nuyens and P. Pescott Jones	73
M. Tybinski and F. Pusey	71
R. Stanners and Partner	70
Miss V. Kemmish and J. Lynch	69
R. Armstrong and R. Evans	62
R. Fullard and H. King	49
H. Meleson and R. Bickley	46

Final table of the five best results for the London Section were as follows:—

P. Nuyens	374
F. Pusey	351
E. Carpenter	349
H. King	342
R. Evans	339
R. Armstrong	337

J. Lynch	333
R. Fullard	333
R. Stanners	333
M. Tybinski	332
R. Bickley	319
J. Huk	302
Miss V. Kemmish	297
H. Meleson	282
P. Pescott Jones	241

(4 matches only)

The first six have qualified to play in the final for the Lord Fraser cup on Monday morning, 17th November at the Ovingdean Congress.

R. ARMSTRONG,  
*Captain.*

## Brighton Bridge Notes

Twelve St. Dunstaners of the Brighton section of the Bridge Club together with their partners took part in a very pleasant afternoons Bridge Drive on 25th October, the results were as follows:

1. S. Webster and Mr. C. Ling
2. J. Whitcombe and Mr. Goodlad
3. B. Ingrey and Mrs. Ingrey
4. D. Giffard and Mrs. Giffard

The Brighton section of the Bridge Club played their first match against a team from Worthing in the Southern County Contract Bridge Association. I regret to say we were well and truly trounced losing by 58 I.M.P.S.

SAMMY WEBSTER.

## DOUBLE DUMMY

by Alf Field

Last month we examined a "Single Dummy" problem, seeing only two hands, as at the table. We concluded by showing the four hands and queried: "Playing 'Double Dummy' can the contract be defeated if West switches to Heart Jack at Trick 4?" Seeing four Hands this means playing best defence. Here again is the full deal.

Contract—Three No Trump. West leads Diamond Queen.

S. K, 6, 5, 2.  
H. A, Q, 5, 2.  
D K, 3.  
C. 7, 5, 3.

S. J, 10, 8, 7.  S. Q, 9.  
H. J, 9.  H. K, 10, 8, 7, 6.  
D. Q, J, 10, 9, 6.  D. 8, 5.  
C. 4, 2.  C. J, 10, 9, 6.

S. A, 4, 3.  
H. 4, 3.  
D. A, 7, 4, 2.  
C. A, K, Q, 8.

So far the play has gone: Trick 1. West led Diamond Queen taken by the King in Dummy. Trick 2. Declarer "Ducks" a spade, i.e. purposely losing a spade trick. East wins with the nine and Trick 3 leads Diamond eight, "Ducked" by South and won by West with the nine of Diamonds. Trick 4 "West continues with the Jack of Diamonds". Unfortunately that sentence was omitted in print last month and you may have been confused at "Query 5".\* This play allowed Declarer to make his contract by a "Throw In" play. Should West have switched to a Heart at Trick 4? Answer Yes, he cannot hope to make Long Suit Tricks without a reasonable entry card, therefore, he tries to find his partner's suit (and succeeds).

Does this defeat the contract? Have a browse? Trick 4. West leads Heart Jack which Declarer allows to win, East plays



## Bridge Notes

an encouraging card (the eight). Trick 5. West now leads the Heart nine and Declarer ducks again. Declarer has lost four tricks and needs the remaining eight tricks for his contract. Trick 6. West now leads Jack of Diamonds (best). Declarer discards a small club and East discards a small Heart. Declarer wins with Ace. For your convenience this is now the position.

S. K, 6, 5.		
H. A, Q.		
D.		
C. 7, 5.		
S. J, 10, 8.		S. Q.
H.	□	H. K, 10.
D. 10, 6.		D.
C. 4, 2.		C. J, 10, 9, 6.
S. A, 4.		
H.		
D. 7.		
C. A, K, Q, 8.		

South to lead and take seven tricks, can you see how? This is a further technique known as "The Squeeze." Trick 7 Declarer plays Ace of Spades and all follow. Trick 8 Declarer plays small Spade to the King and East is squeezed. If he discards a club Declarer makes Ace of Hearts and four Clubs. If he discards a Heart Declarer makes A, Q, of Hearts and three Clubs.

To conclude—what seemed to be a simple "Three No Trumps", like so many more Hands, turns out to be quite a problem when analysed away from the table.

### \*Editor's Note.

There was a printer's error in last month's article by Alf Field and a sentence was left out. At the end of the "Answer" to "Query 4" there should have been this sentence . . .

"East wins trick two with spade nine and leads eight of Diamonds."

Apologies to all to whom this may have caused inconvenience.

## Club News

### New Sutton Club

On 3rd January, 1970 a new St. Dunstan's Club will begin at Sutton Adult School, Benhill Avenue, Sutton. It will meet monthly at 3 p.m. on a Saturday. The next two meetings will be held on 14th February and 14th March.

We, of the New Club, wish to put on record our thanks to Ted Dudley and his helpers for the old Club, now unfortunately closed. We remember with gratitude all the hard work done by Ted, Florrie Parsons, the Club Secretary, and the other members of the team which did such good work over the years and gave us so many happy times. Thank you for the outings, the parties and all the ordinary Club meetings. We enjoyed it all and only hope that the new Club may be half as good as the old one once was.

JOHN TAYLOR,  
Chairman.

### London Club Notes

The October Football Pontoon Sweepstake was equally shared by W. Muir and J. Lynch, their teams being Cardiff and Everton respectively. Mrs. Fullard and Roy Armstrong divided the "booby" between them with the teams Bristol City and Charlton.

Winners of our Domino games in the Club this month were as follows:

2nd of October	1st	W. Harding.
		G. Stanley.
9th of October	1st	G. Stanley.
	2nd	W. Muir.
		W. Miller.
16th of October	1st	W. Miller.
		W. Harding.
23rd of October	1st	W. Miller.
	2nd	J. Lynch.
30th of October	1st	W. Harding.
	2nd	C. Hancock.
		W. Miller.

We shall always remember . . . the day a great sadness descended upon the Club Rooms when our members heard of the death of G. P. Brown, one of our older stalwarts of the London Club. He had passed away in the West Middlesex Hospital after a short illness.

On Friday the 17th of October Jock's fellow St. Dunstaners made their last farewell at the Hanworth Crematorium to their friend of many years standing. Paul Nuyens, Horace Kerr, Bill Harding and Ernie Carpenter were there, escorted by Norman Smith.

Floral tributes were sent by the Men's London Club and the London Bridge Club, also a wreath of poppies from St. Dunstan's. The following Wednesday his ashes were scattered on the St. Dunstan's plot at Brighton in the presence of his son Allan with H. Kerr and N. Smith.

Jock Brown was well known at the Mens' London Club and was for eight years captain of the bridge section. He will be greatly missed in the Club Rooms where he was a familiar figure two or three days each week, whether playing cribbage, dominoes, bridge or just sitting quietly reading at his window seat. Our sympathy goes out to Mrs. Brown, Allan and his family, in their sudden and grievous loss.

On a happier note all our members join me in welcoming Charlie Hancock back to the Club. Charlie, who has had two major operations this Summer, is now "fighting fit" as readers will note in our report of the winning games played in the month of October. Well done, Charlie!

W. MILLER,

Thank you

I wish to thank all St. Dunstan's Headquarters Staff, my friends and St. Dunstaners, also all well wishers who sent letters and were so kind during my husband's recent illness.

GLADYS HANCOCK (Mrs.)

*Ever since Mr. Norman Smith has been Manager of the London Club, a few weeks before Christmas, Jock Brown would present both Mr. and Mrs. Smith with a bowl of hyacinths which were always in bloom by Christmas Day. In the Spring he would present the first camellia to flower in his greenhouse to Mrs. Smith. In memory of Jock's sad passing a few weeks ago. Mrs. Smith has written this poem.*

For Jock . . .

Dark green shoots  
peeping through,  
by Christmas  
hyacinths blue,  
a gift of flowers  
to us—from you;

And in the Spring  
a life anew,  
a pearly flower,  
the first one, too,  
blush-tipped camellia  
to us—from you;

But greatest of all  
a present true,  
the gift, yourself  
without ado,  
the gift of friendship  
to us—from you:

F.S.

### Cardiff Club Notes

We had a very good meeting on 1st November and quite a few members were present.

Dominoes were played and won by **Albert Evans** and **Reg Parsons**. Crib was also won by **Reg Parsons**. The afternoon ended with our usual game of Bingo which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

D. STOTT,  
Secretary.



## Club News

### Midland Club Notes

Sunday, 5th October, was a beautiful day and it could not have been better for our annual pilgrimage to the British Legion at Stratford-on-Avon.

We left Birmingham at 2.30 p.m. and went via Evesham and South Littleton and then round the country lanes to Stratford. After a walk by the river we made our way to the Legion where an excellent tea had been arranged for us by the Ladies' Section of the British Legion. When tea was over we thanked all the members for giving us the pleasure of visiting Stratford once more, we adjourned to the lounge. As usual, the bar was opened a little earlier for our benefit!

We returned home via Evesham and arrived back in Birmingham at 10 p.m. We had all very much enjoyed the afternoon and evening and it was the best outing for weather we had for a number of years.

We held our monthly meeting on 12th October and had quite a good attendance. Several domino games were played off and arrangements were begun for our Christmas dinner and Christmas club meeting.

At this meeting tea was arranged for us by Mrs. J. Cashmore, and we all thanked her for the lovely spread.

To avoid Armistice Sunday commitments of some of our members, our November meeting was brought forward one week and held on 2nd November. The meeting was well attended but owing to the domino matches going rather slowly there was not enough time to finish the Sir Arthur Pearson knockout and this has to be finished next month as this will be the last meeting for the year.

Final arrangements were made for all our Christmas functions and our wives made all the arrangements for the Christmas club meeting.

Tea at the November meeting was arranged for us by Mrs. Hordyniec and we all thanked her for a very excellent tea.

D. E. CASHMORE,  
*Secretary.*

### Check Your 'Dis-count' Rate

#### Answers to Christmas Quiz

1. The pyramids were the tombs of the Egyptian kings. They had to be big and strong because the kings were regarded as gods and therefore, their tombs had to remain for ever.

A more recent theory is that the Egyptians had an abundance of surplus labour and building the pyramids kept many hands busy for a number of years.

2. The Colosseum is an ancient amphitheatre in Rome. Cruel spectacles took place there, frequently with unwilling performers. Gladiators fought with each other or with wild beasts. Christians were persecuted and killed in the Colosseum.

3. The duke's house was called Blenheim in honour of his great victory over the French at Blenheim, Nr. Augsburg in Bavaria. The battle took place on 13th August, 1704 between France and Bavaria on the one side and England and Austria on the other. The royal manor of Woodstock was granted to the duke within a few months of his victory and the mansion begun in 1705.

4. A gate-crasher is a person who gets into a party or meeting although not invited.

5. A bulldozer is a machine used for levelling and clearing ground. The term may also be applied to a person who bullies or crashes his way through anything.

6. A cathedral has the bishop's throne. A church has not.

7. A baronet's title is hereditary: a knight's is not.

8. Mars.

9. Neptune.

10. Jupiter.

11. Juno.

12. A wizard or warlock.

13. A squaw.

14. Gertrude.

15. In Julius Caesar, they assassinate Caesar.

16. Portia says that Shylock can have the pound of flesh to which he is entitled, but if he spills one drop of blood or takes a fraction more than a pound of flesh, his property will be confiscated and his life forfeited.

17. In Hamlet the ghost of Hamlet's father appears.

18. In Macbeth, Lady Macbeth walks in her sleep.

19. Tickets.

20. A spinney is a group of trees or a small wood.

21. A spy story.

22. A cowboy story or story of the Wild West.

23. The Santa Maria. Other ships in the fleet were the Nina and the Pinta.

24. Cornwall.

25. At the Tabard Inn, Southwark, in London.

26. The Cheshire Cheese. Their first meeting place was the King's Head, in Ivy Lane.

27. Queen Elizabeth I.

28. Catherine Parr. She outlived Henry.

Answers from Fred's Cafe.

1. 3d. If your answer was 6d you are forgiven for most people answer likewise but re-reading the question will show that the shoes cost 20/3d and the laces 3d.

2. 25 miles. The Bering Strait which separates Alaska from the U.S.S.R.

3. In early times the London area was divided by streams and small rivers. The River Fleet runs beneath Fleet Street.

Score

40 points. Disqualified!

Between 30-39. Distinguished!

Between 20-30. Discerning!

Between 10-20. Disappointing!

Between 0-10. Dismal!

### Fred wants to know!

Looking in a mirror we see every detail reversed. We find ourselves face to face with our own reflection, our left side is on the right and the right is on the left. Why then are we not upside down? Fred doesn't know and would like someone to tell him the reason for this.



## Welcome to St. Dunstan's

On behalf of St. Dunstan's we welcome St. Dunstaners recently admitted to membership. The Review hopes they will settle down happily as members of our family.



### Big Ears and the Christmas Spirit

My day was ended and I was just finishing my evening meal.

"Sorry, I could not eat it all," I said to my wife, "It's these new teeth I've got. I can't get used to them. I shall have to go and see the dentist."

From that we went on to discussing presents and Christmas purchases. Through the long list of names we decided the presents and cards and on to the Christmas dinner. After deciding the Christmas dinner, I suddenly broke in—"We must have an aperitif. Christmas dinner would not be the same without this."

That night I chanced to pass young Olwen's bedroom as she said her prayers and to end them she said as a kind of extra prayer.

"Oh—and please God, make the dentist give Dad a pair-of-teeth (aperitif) so that he can enjoy his Christmas dinner as he always does . . ."

**Wilfred Orange** of Leeds who became a full St. Dunstaner in October, 1969. He was a regular soldier in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry and served with them in the 2nd World War.

**John Wilkin** of Cambridge came to us at the end of October, 1969. He served in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry during the 1st World War. He is married.



## British Talking Book Service for the Blind

- | Cat. No. | Non-Fiction  |   |
|----------|--|---|
| 600      | ADAMSON, JOY<br><i>BORN FREE</i> (1960)<br>Read by Judith Whale. The true story of Elsa, the Lioness, who was brought up as a pet, and at the age of three was taught to return to the jungle and to fend for herself.<br>P.T. 5½ hours.   | 584 CORBETT, JIM<br><i>THE MAN-EATERS OF KUMAON</i> (1946)<br>Read by George Hagan. A man-eating tiger is the most dangerous animal alive, and much courage and resourcefulness is needed by his hunter.<br>P.T. 8¼ hours.  |
| 604      | ADAMSON, JOY<br><i>LIVING FREE</i> (1961)<br>Sequel to above. Read by Judith Whale. A further account of Elsa and her cubs.<br>P.T. 7¼ hours.  | 606 FABRE-LUCE, ALFRED<br><i>MEN OR INSECTS</i> (1964)<br>Read by Alvar Lidell. A study of the growth in world population in which problems of human survival, including euthanasia and birth control are examined. PART OF THIS RECORDING MAY BE CONSIDERED UNSUITABLE FOR FAMILY READING.<br>P.T. 6¼ hours. |
| 554      | BARCLAY, WILLIAM<br><i>THE MIND OF JESUS</i> (1960)<br>Read by Garard Green. The story takes us step by step from the first Passover to the Transfiguration, and Dr. Barclay interprets the Gospels and describes the historical background.<br>P.T. 9½ hours.   | <b>Fiction</b>  |
| 555      | BARCLAY, WILLIAM<br><i>CRUCIFIED AND CROWNED</i> (1961)<br>Sequel to above. Read by Garard Green. A historical and theological examination of the last days in Jerusalem, the Crucifixion, and the beginnings of the Christian faith.<br>P.T. 8 hours.   | 558 TAYLOR, ELIZABETH<br><i>A WREATH OF ROSES</i> (1949)<br>Read by Gretel Davis. The lives of a handful of people in a small country town.<br>P.T. 8¼ hours.   |
| 582      | BLACK, MARGARET<br><i>NO ROOM FOR TOURISTS</i> (1965)<br>Read by Duncan Carse. Mrs. Black, returned to Britain after 18 years in South Africa, describes the dilemma of the White there and the tensions of Apartheid.<br>P.T. 7½ hours.   | 561 TEY, JOSEPHINE<br><i>BRAT FARRAR</i> (1949)<br>Read by David Broomfield. Simon denounces as an imposter Brat Farrar, the man who claims to be his twin-brother.<br>P.T. 9¼ hours.   |
| 552      | BROWN, PETER<br><i>AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO</i> (1967)<br>(2) Read by Colin Doran. A biography of St. Augustine, the story of his mind and will and spirit in the light of his environment and of the duties to which he believed himself called. FOOTNOTES, CHRONOLOGICAL TABLES, AND BIBLIOGRAPHY OMITTED.<br>P.T. 20 hours. | 597 TRACY, HONOR<br><i>THE BEAUTY OF THE WORLD</i> (1967)<br>Read by John Curle. A witty story full of busy people who find themselves in unusual situations.<br>P.T. 6¼ hours.   |
| 598      | BURDICK, EUGENE<br><i>THE BLUE OF CAPRICORN</i> (1962)<br>Read by David Broomfield. Of the Pacific, Hawaii, Tahiti, Fiji, and other islands; the life of the native peoples and white settlers, and the animal life of the palm atolls and coral beaches.<br>P.T. 11¼ hours.   | 562 WAUGH, EVELYN<br><i>SWORD OF HONOUR</i> (1965)<br>(3) Read by John Richmond. Guy Crouchback, nearly forty, serves as an officer during the war and finds his army career stimulating, puzzling, and often unexpected.<br>P.T. 28¼ hours.  |
| 602      | CLARKE, ELIZABETH<br><i>THE DARKENING GREEN</i> (1964)<br>Read by Carol Marsh. Impressions of life on the farm sharpened by the author's knowledge that her sight would soon be lost.<br>P.T. 8½ hours.  | 593 WEATHERBY, W. J.<br><i>ONE OF OUR PRIESTS IS MISSING</i> (1968)<br>Read by Robert Gladwell. Father Wilkins, returned to England after more than 20 years in Africa, finds the problems of his sordid little parish more than he can bear.<br>P.T. 9¼ hours.   |
| 577      | CLOSE, BRIAN<br><i>CLOSE TO CRICKET</i> (1968)<br>Read by Eric Gillett. His views on Cricket, and the 1967 affair which brought him into public news headlines.<br>P.T. 5 hours.   | 567 WHEATLEY, DENNIS<br>(2) <i>THE WHITE WITCH OF THE SOUTH SEAS</i> (1968)<br>Read by Arthur Bush. Sallust is drawn into a new and perilous adventure during which he visits Guatemala, the Fijis and a group of islands where he encounters a powerful witch-doctor.<br>P.T. 15 hours.                      |
|          |  | 566 WODEHOUSE, P. G.<br><i>DO BUTLERS BURGLE BANKS?</i> (1968)<br>Read by John Curle. Considerable confusion is caused when Mike's fiancée and secretary decide to burgle his bank the same night as his butler and friends.<br>P.T. 5¼ hours.  |

- 578 TAYLOR, ANNA  
*THE GODS ARE NOT MOCKED* (1968)  
(2) Read by Michael de Morgan. A conflict between good and evil in the Druidic order in Britain and Italy in 55 B.C.  
P.T. 12½ hours.
- 574 FORSTER, PETER  
*THE SPIKE* (1965)  
Read by David Geary. The struggle for power on a daily newspaper amid the bustle of Fleet Street, and the editor's passionate love-affair.  
P.T. 8¼ hours.
- 570 GAVIN, CATHERINE  
*THE DEVIL IN HARBOUR* (1968)  
Read by David Broomfield. A story of espionage in 1916, with intrigue in places as far apart as the High Seas, and the Russian Ballet.  
P.T. 12 hours.
- 571 GRIFFITHS, SALLY  
*WINTER DAY IN A GLASSHOUSE* (1968)  
Read by Robert Gladwell. A school-girl's death sets up a string of emotional reactions, resulting in the disintegration of the entire school.  
P.T. 7½ hours.
- 585 SHARP, MARGERY  
*IN PIOUS MEMORY* (1968)  
Read by Robin Holmes. Mrs. Prelude's over-hasty identification of her husband's body after a plane crash starts a most unexpected train of events.  
P.T. 5½ hours.
- 586 SIMENON, GEORGES  
*MAIGRET'S PICKPOCKET* (1968)  
Read by Stephen Jack. A pickpocket helps himself to Maigret's wallet, and leads him to a complicated case of murder.  
P.T. 4½ hours.
- 591 SPARK, MURIEL  
*THE PUBLIC IMAGE* (1968)  
Read by Peter Barker. The Public Image, carefully built up for a film-star and her husband, is almost destroyed by his suicide.  
P.T. 4½ hours.
- 589 STERN, JAMES  
*THE STORIES OF JAMES STERN* (1968)  
Read by George Hagan. Satirical sketches of upper-class behaviour, compassionate gestures towards the under-privileged, and a keen interest in dreams.  
P.T. 12 hours.

## Family News

### Marriage

CHADWICK-GATES. Clifford Chadwick of Kirkham, Preston, Lancs., married Mrs. Gates on 1st November, 1969.

## Ruby Wedding

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. L. SHERIDAN of Stourbridge, Worcester, who celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 5th October, 1969.

## Golden Weddings

Many congratulations to MR. AND MRS. J. MCKINLAY of Hounslow, Middlesex, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 28th October, 1969.

Warm congratulations to MR. AND MRS. T. WOOD of Congleton, Cheshire, who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on 20th October, 1969.

## Grandfathers

### Congratulations to:

THOMAS BROUGHAM of Liverpool, on the arrival of another granddaughter Angela, born to Barry and his wife on 4th October, 1969, a sister for Wendy. He now has a dozen grandchildren—six boys and six girls.

WILLIAM COWING of Basingstoke, Hants., has become a grandfather for the first time on the arrival of Samantha Jane, who was born on 4th October, 1969, to his son, David and his daughter-in-law Ann.

WILLIAM CARELESS of Evesham, Worcs, on the arrival of a granddaughter recently.

MRS. MARGARET STANWAY of Macclesfield, who announces the arrival of a grandson, Marc Andrew Gibaud, her daughter Pat's second child.

GEORGE ETHERINGTON of West Byfleet, Surrey, who became a grandfather for the first time when his daughter gave birth to a son on 16th July, 1969.

MRS. OLIVE SQUIRES of Ringwood, Hants., widow of the late Ellis Squires, who has become a grandparent when her daughter Sheila, gave birth to twins, Malcolm John, and Paul James, born on Mrs. Squires' birthday, 26th October.

HARRY WINDLEY of Salford, Lancs, who has become a grand-father for the second time on the arrival of Sharon, born to David and his wife Elizabeth, a sister for David junior.



## Family News

### Grandfather

GEORGE SWANSTON of Edinburgh announces the arrival of another grand-child David Neil, born 28th October, 1969.

Linda, daughter of JOHN DICKEY of Christchurch, Hants, was married on 4th October, 1969 at Burley Church, Hants, to Roy M. Barrow.

Frank, son of our St. Dunstaner, FRANK BROOKE of Moreton, Wirral, Cheshire, married Miss Jillian McCarthy at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Moreton, on 11th October, 1969.

Elizabeth, daughter of REGINALD THEOBALD of Ipswich, Suffolk, married Christopher Miller on 2nd August, 1969.

Terence, son of ISAAH DUDLEY of Kings Winford, Staffordshire, married Miss Jean Darlow on Saturday, 19th July, 1969.

Robin, son of DONALD BAKER of Rhyl, North Wales, who is a member of the Gwynedd Constabulary, is one of 37 selected from 17,000 throughout the whole country to attend a year's course at the Bramshill Police College. He has been promoted sergeant as a consequence.

Maureen, daughter of CYRIL SEDMAN of Bury, Lancs, has passed an examination to become a member of the Association of Medical Secretaries and is now the senior administrator of a group medical practice.

### Deaths

We offer our very sincere sympathy to:

HENRY MCCARTNEY of Belfast, Northern Ireland, whose wife, Annie died in hospital after an operation on 8th November, 1969.

JOSEPH PURCELL of Urinston, who mourns the death of his mother on 22nd September, 1969.

## In Memory

It is with great regret we have to record the deaths of the following St. Dunstaners, and we offer our deepest sympathy to their widows, families and friends.

**Thomas Brougham.** *King's Liverpool Regiment.*

Thomas Brougham of Liverpool, died at Pearson House, Brighton, on 28th October. He was 59 years of age.

He enlisted in the King's Liverpool Regiment from 1939 to 1943 and was injured by a bomb explosion. He came to St. Dunstan's in the same year.

He trained in industry and carried on working until very recently when ill-health compelled him to retire. He always enjoyed vacations at Ovingdean and his death occurred just as he arrived to start a holiday at Pearson House. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

**George Potts Brown.** *1st Cameronian Highlanders.*

George Potts Brown (Jock) of Twickenham, Middlesex, died on 15th October, 1969. He was 75 years of age.

He enlisted in the 1st Cameronian Highlanders in 1914 and served with them until his discharge in July 1915, and came to St. Dunstan's in that year.

Mr. Brown became an efficient basket and mat maker and took a keen interest in poultry keeping but in 1935 he re-trained as a telephonist and was so employed until his retirement in 1961. Jock was a founder member of the London Bridge Club and throughout his membership was a regular bridge player at the Club and he also represented St. Dunstan's in bridge matches throughout the Country. Last year Jock, in the company of three other St. Dunstaners, was present with Lord Fraser at a special celebration dinner to commemorate 30 years of Bridge Club activities. Since his retirement he increased his greenhouse and gardening interests. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

**George Benjamin English.**

*The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry.*

George Benjamin English of Castleford, Yorkshire, died in hospital on 26th October, 1969, at the age of 90.

He enlisted in the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry from 1900 to 1916 but his sight did not fail until later in life, and he became a St. Dunstaner in 1962. He was able to enjoy a few holidays at Brighton but in recent years his failing health kept him at home. He was a widower and leaves a daughter, Mrs. Grincell.

**Francis Joseph Guiseley.**

*5th West Riding (Duke of Wellington) Regiment.*

Francis Joseph Guiseley of Cleckheaton, Yorkshire, died in hospital on 23rd October, 1969. He was 75 years of age.

## In Memory

He enlisted in the 5th West Riding (Duke of Wellington) Regiment from 1912 to 1918. He was wounded in France in 1918 and came to St. Dunstan's in the same year. He kept a shop for some time, and later took up joinery. After his wife's death in 1963 he lived with relatives until his health failed earlier this year. He leaves a son, Mr. E. Guiseley and a sister, Miss M. A. Guiseley.

**Harry Millard.** *Wiltshire Regiment.*

Harry Millard of Swindon, Wilts, died suddenly on 26th October, 1969 at the age of 53 years.

He enlisted in the Territorials, associated with the Wiltshire Regiment and he went to France with the British Expeditionary Force in 1939. He came back to England with the returning troops from Dunkirk. He served also with the Wiltshire Yeomanry, the Military Police and the Home Guard and it was whilst acting as an instructor in the Home Guard that he was injured and after his discharge he came to St. Dunstan's in 1955. After preliminary training he became a shopkeeper and he and his wife continued successfully in business. All through his business career he had been assisted by Mrs. Millard and his sudden and unexpected death came as a great shock.

He leaves a widow and son, Christopher, who is still studying at University.

**Walter Newland.** *9th Royal Sussex Regiment.*

Walter Newland of Hever, Kent, died on 30th October, 1969. He was 76 years of age.

He enlisted in the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment early in 1916 and served with them until his discharge at the end of 1917 when he came to St. Dunstan's. He trained in poultry farming and in 1920 he settled in a cottage on the Hever Estate, owned by Lord and Lady Astor, by whom both Walter and his wife were highly respected. Walter continued with his poultry farming until 1959 when he retired. He then became very interested in his garden and greenhouse. His health has given cause for concern for quite a number of years and although he had one or two heart attacks recently, his death was quite sudden. He leaves a widow who nursed him faithfully.

**James Woodhouse.** *10th Lancashire Fusiliers.*

James Woodhouse of Hulland, Nr. Derby, died on 30th October, 1969 at the age of 70 years.

He served in the 10th Lancashire Fusiliers from 1917 to 1919 and he was wounded in 1918. He became a St. Dunstaner in 1919. He owned and worked his own farm very successfully and was well known for his love of the land. He was a widower.

## National Mobility Centre

Since September, 1966, the Midlands Mobility Centre in Birmingham, financed by a three-year grant from the Viscount Nuffield Auxiliary Fund, with St. Dunstaner Walter Thornton as its co-founder chairman, has been training sighted instructors and blind people in the long cane system. Now that the grant has come to an end, the Centre—rechristened the National Mobility Centre—is being continued by a consortium of the R.N.I.B., St. Dunstan's, and the Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind. Walter Thornton was recently elected chairman of its advisory committee. He is willing to receive requests for advice or information from those who think that they might benefit from long cane training in the form of a shortened course.

He has been conducting experiments for some time into ways of giving training of real value but short duration, having very much in mind those men who would find it difficult to spare time away from work.

## A BIT LIKE ACTING

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Miss McCurrick, Miss Willett and Miss McAndrews, but it was Miss McCurrick mostly." He studied from books read aloud—tape recorders were not so generally available then. "Miss McCurrick was 'bang on' in history, and she used to link up the different dates with other historical events that made it easier for me to remember them. I specialised in the history of the Castle—its fortifications and the Earls of Warwick. If you know the history of the Earls of Warwick you know quite a bit of the history of England."

Another aid at Ovingdean, was a model of the Castle provided by St. Dunstan's.



"It was a built up model I could feel with my stumps. I could tell the shape, towers, gate house and all that. Miss McCurrick got me thoroughly steeped in the history of the Warwicks, plus the armour, of which a lot is Norman French—not our Norman French at St. Dunstons but the names of parts of armour! I went to the Tower of London from Ovingdean and talked to the Head Armourer and Miss McCurrick had reference books sent on the Wallace Collection of Armour and Weapons—so really they gave me a good grounding at Ovingdean."

#### Memories of Castles

Ted had always been interested in Castles although he had not visited Warwick in his sighted days. His work as a joiner had taken him to Leeds Castle, near Maidstone, Kent, and he had visited many others. With his memories of Castles he had seen and the model he had touched, he had a good idea of the layout of Warwick Castle before he arrived there to begin his work at Easter 1947. "I went to Warwick a few weeks before I was due to start work and met the head guide Mr. Pargetor. He took me through the Castle and then round all the show places in the town of Warwick."

"After staying at Warwick overnight I went back to Ovingdean to do a bit more studying before starting at Easter."

"When the idea of my working at the Castle originated the plan was for me to stand in the Courtyard and tell the visitors about the towers and fortifications etc. but Mr. Hollyoak, the then agent at the Castle, thought it would be better if I received the visitors in the family chapel and gave them an introduction to the Castle. I was scared to death with my first party, a Bank Holiday crowd of about 40 people. It's not so bad on a Bank Holiday—you get people like the ordinary run of folks, they are not so critical, in fact I didn't have time to really get nervous. It was like throwing you in the deep end of a swimming pool, you either swim or you don't."

Ted Miller swam, and things have gone swimmingly ever since. This is how his working day begins. "We start at ten o'clock and the first people are there streaming in. They are met at the front door by the guide who is to go round with them, he brings them into the Chapel and introduces me to the party telling them that

I am blind and a St. Dunstaner and then I talk to them. I tell them of the history and dates of the towers, walls and fortifications, the history of the Earls of Warwick throughout the ages and the history of the Chapel, its windows, and treasures which include pictures by Van Dyke, Tiepolo, Perugino and De L'Orme. I also describe the "Chapel Proper" as they call it, the famous Beauchamp Chapel in St. Mary's Church. You see the tomb there of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick who was the father-in-law of Warwick the King-maker, then there is Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, the favourite of Queen Elizabeth, and also his brother Ambrose Dudley and the son of Robert Dudley, 'The noble Imp', and in the main body of the Church . . ." "Ted", interrupts Mrs. Miller, "You're not lecturing a party now," and Ted smiles the smile of an enthusiast, "Of course St. Mary's Church really is full of history," he says apologetically and explains that when there is time he tells his audience about the historic places in the town so that, "they can make a day of it in Warwick. I tell them where it is and how to get there."

#### Royal Visitors

The years at Warwick have been interesting ones for Ted. "There are about eight guides and when you are not working you are talking to them. We get some interesting conversations going. I have met thousands of people, some of them V.I.P.s. The late King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, came on a private visit. The King spoke to me and the Queen Mother remembered meeting me from Ovingdean. I have met American Senators like Mr. Dewey and Adlai Stevenson—film stars, Clark Gable, Humphrey Bogart, Vivien Leigh, Mary Pickford and Cicely Courtneidge, and ambassadors from many countries. We even had a film made at the Castle, called 'The Black Rose' which starred Tyrone Power, Jack Hawkins and many other now famous stars. I have had a fuller time than I might, perhaps, have had in ordinary work."

"The interesting thing is, since I've been there we get books out of the library and my wife reads them to me. We do a bit of research work on our own into some of the things that are not the everyday things you find in the guide books. Then you can fall back on that, when a person asks you a

question you can enlarge on it. As long as you don't tell lies—because you never know who's there. You have got to stick to the facts otherwise you get bowled out".

Being the sort of chap who likes to talk to people and listen to what they have to say is important, Ted believes, "I have to make friends with people. I introduce them to the Castle. I am the first person they meet in the Castle, they come up the drive—all this impressive stonework, the Courtyard—and into the Castle to be confronted with a man with no hands and no eyes, so I really have to put them at their ease quickly."

"Some people are a bit shocked—some people don't even know you are blind. Time and time again I stand here and I am describing the colours and the figures in the pictures, how they are cleaned and all that and they all start wondering whether I am pulling their legs or not."

How does a blind man get to know paintings so well? "You can't be there all these years without it all rubbing off on to

you. I was a friend of the chap who used to clean some of the pictures, and he used to come and talk to me. So I learned how the artist works, what is in the picture, and what to look for in the different artists."—Yes, it obviously helps to be the sort of chap who likes to listen to people.

It can be hard work from ten until five-thirty on a busy day when party follows party into the Chapel. Ted's talk varies in length according to the parties' schedules—usually five to ten minutes but he has only lost his voice twice, each time after the busy holidays. "You get to be able to use your voice. I mean you know when you are hitting the back. You hit the wall at the back and the sound comes back to you. The Chapel has a very high ceiling, you can make your voice ring round if you want to and, of course, I've done it so often I know how to talk in there. Being blind, I suppose I am on my toes all the time, I can't afford to make mistakes. It is a bit like acting, I make it sound right even if I am feeling bored inside. People have said to me, 'You sound as though you were

"You would have a job to fill it with violets"—Ted Miller and a 5 feet tall Italian alabaster vase.





## A BIT LIKE ACTING

doing it for the first time', so I can't sound too bored. I like people to ask questions, you are half-way there if they ask questions."

Audiences differ: what suits the Americans may not suit the English. "In the Chapel I've got a huge Alabaster vase over 5 ft. tall—an Italian vase—it stands right in front of a stained glass window. With the light coming through it looks really good. Sometimes I make a little joke, saying they sometimes fill it with flowers, but you'd have a job to fill it with violets. That usually makes the Americans laugh but it might drop flat with the English".

The Americans are easy to get on with even if they do not know about St. Dunstons, "They think its Holy Orders or something like that." The Dutch and Italians really know their pictures: "With the Italians you've got to keep command of the party and do the talking otherwise before you know where you are they've taken over; I listen and find out where the talking is coming from and throw my voice over that side and raise my voice a little. All the different nations have their different characteristics. Language is a bit of a barrier—the interpreters say to me sometimes, 'not too much' and I make it brief, even then I say about three words in English, and they seem to speak about twenty in their language."

Ted has made many friends among visitors to the Castle who seek him out when they come again, or send messages through friends making their own visit to Warwick. "One American lady came the other day with her two children and she said, 'The last time I came was with my mother, now I am bringing my children to see you'"

His favourite visitors are the children. "You get a lot of pleasure out of the kids, they are looking for secret doors and dungeons. They expect blood on every sword I think. They will be my happiest memories: a crowd of kids—not too old—when the Great Hall is opened, seeing all the suits of armour and hearing them say 'Cor'."

Ted Miller with some visitors outside the Castle

